

# News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, August 1, 2003

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## What the Public Wants at Cornfield

### **Advisory Committee Refines Choices for New Cornfield Park**

LOS ANGELES – In the latest public hearing on the Cornfield park property near downtown Los Angeles, Thursday night, July 31, 2003, the Cornfield Advisory Committee spent many hours sifting through more than 100 recommendations on what members of the public want included in the newly proposed park.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Advisory Committee had selected a series of preferences that specify the kinds of general features and activities that should be included in the planning process. For instance, among the many features selected on the final list, the group selected water features, a variety of hiking and walking trails, safety and security features, historic elements, open fields for multi use recreation, and natural areas.

Prior to this meeting, the planning team from California State Parks conducted a series of public outreach workshops and meetings, called “brainstorming and design” workshops, with more than 100 students from one high school and two elementary schools in the downtown area. From the students came more suggestions and recommendations than there is acreage space for those features in the park. It was then the job of the 36-member Cornfield Advisory Committee, Thursday night, to refine the students suggestions into a listing of what can be recommended for inclusion in the park. These alternatives will now be incorporated into the public comment record for use in preparing the General Plan for the park.

“This process is doing exactly what we had hoped,” said Ted Jackson, the Chief of the Southern Division for California State Parks. “It is exciting and wonderful to see the energy and involvement of this community in working to select the kind of park they want for their neighborhoods. Their ideas and visions are helping us move one step closer to turning this brown-field into a park.”

The next meeting in the planning phase is now set for August 18, 2003, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Los Angeles River and Garden Center. At this meeting, the public will have a change to discuss the naming of the park. ###